

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John R. Liddicoat et al.

Serial No.:

10/724,854

Filing Date:

12/01/2003

For:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANIPULATING

TISSUE

Group Art Unit No.:

3732

Examiner:

unknown

Attorney's Docket No.:

LIDDICOHN-123

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit documents and information which may be considered material to the examination of this application. These documents and information are listed on the accompanying forms.

Copies of documents 1-20, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A (substitute for Form PTO-1449), are enclosed herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that these documents be fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants also respectfully request that a copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A (substitute for Form PTO-1449) (two pages), submitted herewith, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is believed to be required.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. If for any reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by the Examiner by telephone in order that any deficiencies may be expeditiously remedied.

LIDDICOHN-123

The enclosed documents may have markings thereon. Applicants are not presently aware of the source of those markings, and no significance is meant to be attached thereto.

Please charge any additional fees due in connection with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this submission is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

## Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED								
WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL,								
POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER								
FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:								
November 4, 2004								
(DATE OF DEPOSIT)								
Mark J. Pandiscio								
(NAME OF ATTORNEY)								
Mundaying 11/4/04								
(SIGNATURE)								
November 4, 2004								
(DATE OF SIGNATURE)								

Respectfully submitted,

Maryandrini 11/4/04

Mark J. Pandiscio Reg. No. 30,883 Pandiscio & Pandiscio 470 Totten Pond Road Waltham, MA 02154 Tel. (617) 290-0060

DP/LIDDICOHN123.IDS

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no constant are re

PTO/SB/08A (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE of collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 2

Complete if Known						
Application Number	10/724,854					
Filing Date	12/01/2003					
First Named Inventor	John R. Liddicoat et					
Art Unit	3732					
Examiner Name	unknown					
Attorney Docket Number	LIDDICOHN-123					

			U. S. PATEN	DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Publication Da MM-DD-YYY  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (* known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
<u>.</u>	1	US- 2002/0082621	06-27-2002	Schurr et al.		
	2	<sup>US-</sup> 2002/0156470	10-24-2002	Shadduck		
	3	US- 2003/0176883	09-18-2003	Sauer et al.		
	4	<sup>US-</sup> 2003/0171760	09-11-2003	Gambale		
	5	<sup>US-</sup> 2003/0171664	09-11-2003	Wendlandt		
	6	<sup>US-</sup> 2003/0120289	06-26-2003	McGuckin, Jr. et al.		
	7	<sup>US-</sup> 2003/0065359	04-03-2003	Weller et al.		
	8	<sup>US-</sup> 2002/0193851	12-19-2002	Silverman et al.		
	9	<sup>US-</sup> 2001/0056282	12-27-2001	Sonnenschein et al.		
	10	<sup>US-</sup> 6,592,596	07-15-2003	Geitz		
	11	<sup>US-</sup> 6,514,250	02-04-2003	Jahns et al.		
	12	<sup>US-</sup> 6,478,791	11-12-2002	Carter et al.		
	13	<sup>US-</sup> 6,254,642	07-03-2001	Taylor		
	14	<sup>US-</sup> 6,231,585	05-15-2001	Takahashi et al.		
	15	<sup>US-</sup> 6,197,022	03-06-2001	Baker		
	16	<sup>US-</sup> 5,865,827	02-02-1999	Bullister		
	17	<sup>US-</sup> 5,345,949	09-13-1994	Shlain		
	18	<sup>US-</sup> 6,558,400	05-06-2003	Deem et al.		
	19	<sup>US-</sup> 6,663,639	12-16-2003	Laufer et al.		

		FORE	<b>IGN PATENT DOCU</b>	MENTS		
	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	
	<u> </u>					
						L

Examiner		 		Date		
Signature				Considered		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WiPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND** TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO **Application Number** 10/724,854 Filing Date 12/01/2003 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor John R. Liddicoat et STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 3732 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** unknown LIDDICOHN-123 Attorney Docket Number

Sheet 2

			U. S. PATENT	T DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Cite No.1		Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (f known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	20	<sup>US-</sup> 6,544,271	04-08-2003	Adams et al.		
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
	<u> </u>	US-	<del></del>			
		US-	<u> </u>			
		US-			<u> </u>	
		US-				
		US-				
_		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
		US-				
		US-		<del></del>		
		US-				
		US-				

		FORE	IGN PATENT DOCU	MENTS	·		
	Cite No.1		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (# known)	MM-DD-YYYY	,,	Or Relevant Figures Appear		
						L	
		-					

Examiner				ate Considered	
Signature			۱۷	onsidered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND** TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.